

JULY 16.

Mr. VAUX, Vice-President, in the chair.

Eight members present.

The following paper was presented for publication:—

“Descriptions of a new recent species of *Glycimeris* from Beaufort, N. C., and of Mioocene Shells of North Carolina.” By T. A. Conrad.

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JULY 30.

Mr. B. A. HOOPES in the chair.

Six members present.

On leave being granted, Mr. TRYON read the following communication received by him from Dr. JOS. LEIDY.

ON SOME NEW SPECIES OF FOSSIL MAMMALIA FROM WYOMING.

FORT BRIDGER, UINTA Co., WYOMING,  
July 24th, 1872.

I arrived at this place on the 15th inst. The country is the most remarkable that I have ever seen. It is an immense basin, the bed of an ancient lake, bounded on the south by the Uinta Mountains, and extending far north to the Wind River Mountains. The deposits of the lake, of the tertiary period, are estimated to be about 8000 feet in thickness. They present the appearance of a succession of terraces or table-lands extending southerly from Green River to the base of the Uintas. The country for the most part is treeless, and, except along the watercourses, nearly a desert. The tertiary deposits consist of strata so little inclined that they appear to be horizontal to the eye. The strata are composed mainly of clays, soft and crumbling or more or less indurated, often mixed with sand. Friable sandstones and indurated marls, often with abundance of fresh-water shells, also frequently occur. The lands are often isolated by broad plains or narrower valleys. These isolated lands are named buttes, and resemble great earthworks or huge railway embankments. Frequently their eroded sides give them the appearance of a vast assemblage of Egyptian pyramids flanking the plains above. Such assemblages of earthworks, pyramids, mounds, piles of truncated cones, &c., rising from a plain, constitute what are named, in various parts of our great West, “bad lands” or “mauvaises terres.”

As the buttes crumble away under the effect of the weather, the fossils of their strata become exposed to view.